



CREATING GOOD JOBS, A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT, AND A FAIR AND THRIVING ECONOMY

October 1, 2018

Dear Senator:

As a coalition of the nation's largest labor unions and environmental groups, collectively representing millions of members and supporters, we write to express BlueGreen Alliance's support of a number of key provisions within S. 3021, America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018, and to urge the Senate to consider the legislation promptly.

Clean water is essential for a healthy community, prosperous economy, and clean environment. Yet for too many Americans, consistent access to clean, safe water is an uncertainty. America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 includes a number of provisions intended to drive investments in water infrastructure, support the creation of quality family-sustaining jobs here in the U.S., and help ensure that all Americans have access to clean water.

In particular, we applaud the inclusion of Sec. 2023, which doubles funding for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund over three years. This critical fund leverages billions of dollars in water infrastructure investment and drives the creation of quality jobs throughout the U.S. economy. The bill also crucially includes a five-year extension of the Fund's Buy America provision, which has a long-standing history of boosting American manufacturing, creating quality, family-sustaining jobs, and maximizing investments in the American economy. We look forward to working with congressional leaders to make this important provision permanent.

We also support several additional provisions aimed at remediating lead drinking water issues, driving natural infrastructure investments, and improving community resilience. Sec. 1465 creates a grant program of \$5 million per year to assist schools with replacing drinking water fountains over thirty years old, a critical step in addressing widespread lead drinking water contamination. Additionally, the bill includes several provisions aimed at driving natural infrastructure investments, which provide important and sustainable protections from storms and floods, reduce runoff pollution, stimulate local investment, and support American jobs.

Across the nation, communities are experiencing first hand the dangers of neglecting water infrastructure. This bill is a critical step in addressing this dangerous problem. We urge the Senate to swiftly take up this legislation and maintain the crucial provisions outlined above.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Glas".

Kim Glas
Executive Director
BlueGreen Alliance